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TODAY’S WEATHER:

Marshall McDonal House Charity Communications raised more than $10,000 in its reverse raffle Saturday for Ronald McDonald House.

By MIKAELA KEENER

Marshall McDonal House Charity Communications raised more than $10,000 in its reverse raffle Saturday for Ronald McDonald House.

Director Jessica Ross said the group of Marshall University publicity students who make up EMIC Communications put together other fundraisers to help benefit the charity.

“This was the big event that we’ve been building up to,” Ross said. “The events that we’ve been doing throughout the semester were smaller fundraisers in order to allow us to have the funds to actually pull off this event.”

The reverse raffle meant the last ticket chosen won instead of the first ticket pulled.

Ross explained the first ticket pulled won $100 and every 50th person drawn won his or her ticket money back.

“Seeing that money we had already written into our budget that we always have, we found out that money,” Toler said. “It will come back to us, but in the meantime we were kind of scrambling to figure out how to fill that void, and that’s when the campaigns class said that they were going to organize a fundraiser. So we’re thrilled and really, really grateful.”

Toler said she appreciated the help the PR students provided to the Ronald McDonald House.

“It was such a pleasure to work with those students and the fact that they raise this much money, that I’m surprised because they’ve been like pro professionals from the beginning, but ok my goal, $10,000,” Toler said. “I didn’t think any of us expected that much money and hopefully we can grow this beyond.”

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Second- graders interview students in MU Society of Black Scholars

By CAILTIN FOWLKEs THE PARTHENON

Peyton Elementary sent two second grade classes to Marshall University Friday to interview students from the MU Society of Black Scholars.

In February, the second graders were studying African-American as part of Black History Month.

The teachers of the two classes, Stephanie Cade and Melanie Grohe, said originally they wanted the students to be able to interview people and then write a case-study biography from the interviews.

Cade said the purpose of the trip was for the students to use a college campus and complete the case-study assignment.

“Our students at Peyton, a lot of times, they don’t get exposure to what college is like, that it’s something that they can work for and attain,” Cade said. “So, we’re trying that not only are they successful with the work they do in their class, but also plants a seed for them so that they know that they are capable of going to college.”

The second graders worked together to create five questions to ask the Marshall scholars.

The questions were “Where are you from?” “Did anyone in your family go to college?” “How did school help prepare you for college?” “What was your biggest obstacle?”

Diana Brooker, Society of Black Scholars member, said it was a great experience being interviewed.

“It was able to see these different kids who come from a different background than I did,” Brooker said. “It was also great to be able to help them see that they too can come to college.”

The students participated in various activities while visiting Marshall’s campus.

The second graders interviewed the John Deere Drinks Library. took a class photo and ate lunch before the interviews.

David Cartwright, integrated science and technology instructor, showed the second graders C.A.D. software, which is used for 3-D printing. The students were able to experiment with the software on a computer during the hour-long workshop.

Andy Brett and Jake Appleby, freshmen on the Marshall golf team, instructed each student on the correct way to putt in the Cam Henderson Center.

The second graders wrote the conversation partners got together.

The Olympians featured target practice, bula-loop relay, three-legged race, wheelbarrow race, water balloon relay, water pong and rollerball.

Tacki Alkatheri, INTO MU student in the English pathway, said when he first came to America he had no American friends, but his conversation partner has introduced him to many Americans.

“Having a conversation partner gives me the chance to speak with people from this country and practice the accent better,” Alkatheri said.

Alexa Uchida, sports administration graduate student from Japan, lived in America for a few years before attending Marshall.

Uchida said he started the INTO MU program to regain confidence in his English speaking abilities and so he had a conversation partner.

“For my case, it helped me a lot,” in making American friends and talking to American students, rather than talking to other Japanese students,” Uchida said.

The Conversation Partners program is a volunteer program. Students can attend the planned events or spend time with their conversation partner on their own.

The April events are an Easter egg hunt 6-8 p.m. April 2 and an international dance off 6 p.m. April 27.

The events for May are an end of the year party, a Cinco De Mayo celebration 6:30 p.m. May 5 and a video competition challenge.

Conversation partner applications are available at the front desk of the INTO MU center.

Caitlin Fowlkes can be contacted at fowlkes2@marshall.edu.
By ADAM POLSKY

Marshall University’s softball team earned head coach Shonda Stanton her 500th victory this weekend with a three game sweep of Furman University in Greenville.

Sophomore ace Jordan Dixon made her presence known Saturday with complete game shutouts in the first two contests of the series.

The Thundering Herd took game one by a score of 3-0. Two of the Herd’s three runs were scored by sophomore outfielde Morgan Zebb and driven in by junior outfielde Raquel Escareno. The third came courtesy of freshman utility player Malii Marshall who knocked in a run with the first hit of her career in the sixth inning.

Dixon did not allow a hit until the fourth inning and finished with 11 strikeouts. The Herd took game two of the series 3-0 marking coach Stanton’s 473rd in her 16 years at Marshall.

Stanton said she realized during her career her position meant more than the numbers in the record books.

“I think, as a coach, you’re all about the competition and about winning,” Stanton said to the Herald. “But at the end of the day, and the older I get, you don’t look at it as just a job and having to win ball games. You look at it as all calling and what an opportunity it is to be able to bloom where you’ve planted and grow with those young ladies.”

The offensive attack balanced out this contest with the three runs driven in by different players. Junior infielder Shaylun Branton added on with a single game one and added seven more in game two. Escareno drove in the three runs driven in by pushing Branton over the plate with a double to left center immediately after.

Dixon kept Furman hitless until the sixth inning in this contest and finished with eight strikeouts.

Coach Stanton praised Dixon’s resilience after a tough stretch over the past few weeks.

“What can you say about Jordan Dixon?” Stanton said. “She was absolutely outstanding. We’ve really challenged her over the past couple weeks, and she goes out and ranks up the Ks (strikeouts) in one game and gets a one-hitter shutout. (Then) she comes out in game two and has a no hitter going into the sixth inning.”

The Paladins were able to salvage one run in the final game of the series, but still fell to the Thundering Herd, 2-1.

Dixon went the distance and added seven more strikeouts to raise her total to 209 Ks. Dixon is 20-14 this season.

The scoring was provided by freshman infielder Elixn D’Orazio, who hit a run batted in triple in the third inning, and Branton who hit a sacrifice ground out in the fifth inning.

Marshall climbed to 21-10 after the sweep and Furman fell to 15-16.

The Herd will play two more games against Wright State University Tuesday at Dot Hicks Field.

By MALCOLM WALTON

Marshall University’s baseball team has had its ups and downs this season, but it has consistently seen significant contributions from its West Virginia natives.

The Thundering Herd has five players on its roster who hail from the Mountain State—pitcher Caleb Bass, Barbourville; pitcher Michael Taylor, Saint Albans; outfielde Billy Sager, Kenova; outfielde Corey Bird, Pinch; and outfielde Austin Norman, Fairmont.

Taylor, a junior who has the second lowest ERA on the team, said the opportunity it is to be able to play in your state where the competition is tough and the expectations are high to be able to do that in the state you were raised in just makes it that much better.

“Growing up playing little league baseball,” Bird said. “Everyone wants to go to the best-known program where the competition is tough and the expectations are high. To be able to do that in the state you were raised in just makes it that much better.”

While playing close to home was an incentive for each player, Sager, a sophomore, has the opportunity to carry on the family tradition as well.

“My dad and uncle both played for Marshall’s baseball team,” Sager said. “Told Sager, my uncle, actually got inducted into the Marshall Hall of Fame. It feels great just to be a part of that and have your family nearby so they can see your games.”

Norman, a freshman, said one of the first times he seriously considered coming to Marshall was after an encounter with now-teacher Bird during the 2013 Class A & AA West Virginia State Championship.

“My team lost to Barboursville, Corey’s team, my junior year in the state championship,” Norman said. “I knew he was coming to Marshall after that year and it was kind of my goal to work hard as he did and get to where he’s at. I kind of just sat back and thought to myself: ‘I can do that too. Why not me?’ And now we’re teammates.”

Walton can be contacted at walton47@marshall.edu.

By KATE LAXAS

Fallon herpes patient and Marshall University baseball player Billy Sager grew up in agriculture, with it being a smaller state,” Taylor said. “So college recruits.

audience baseball players are constantly overlooked by major average on the team this season (1.77), said West Virginia high Austin Norman, Fairmont.

Sager, Kenova, outfielde Corey Bird, Pinch, and outfielde Billy Bird, a sophomore, has the opportunity to carry on a high. To be able to do that in the state you were raised in just where the competition is tough and the expectations are Dot Hicks Field. Sophomore ace Jordan Dixon is one of five West Virginia natives on the Thundering Herd roster. Taylor, who is from Saint Albans, has the second-lowest ERA on the team.
The leisure of music is an open instrument in his hands. I took up the guitar three years ago. My atmosphere like it since I moved here three years ago. I play it regularly and I've learned a lot from it. Not only is that type of talent incredible to me, but just the experience of live Appalachian music is full of joy and learning for me. I appreciate that music and how it makes me feel.

On that note, a part of my Appalachian identity that I adopted far too late in life is pride. One of the most important lessons I took away from the conference was the need to instill pride in Appalachian youth through education. Unless young people understand the culture and history of the region, they will fall prey to the negative stereotypes of Appalachia that are everywhere. I went through a period where I was ashamed of where I came from, and I am glad I have left that life behind me, but I know how it is to feel that you don't understand your own region. We need to teach Appalachian youth that there is value in being self-confident and learning from the land. We need to talk about the success of Appalachian people and the talent that are here.

I have learned that music is an open instrument in my hands. I am open to learning and growing with the music. I am open to learning and growing with the music.
The runway is mixing it up by pairing them together with less colors, and were worn often together as the head-to-toe combos: black and white.

"I am so happy to see patterns on patterns becoming popular this season," McCoy said. "It's like dresses that zip all the way up or down. It just looks cheap, and I think it's a poor excuse for a trend. And if that wasn't enough, they're so unflattering, and no matter how I see them worn I think they look awful. Friends don't let friends wear them."

McCoy said his favorite trend is colored jeans with button up shirts. "Boyfriend jeans are so cute and you can pair them with anything," McCoy said. "I love wearing them because if I want to dress them up I can wear them with a blazer, and if I want to be casual I can wear them with a cute pocket tee."

Boyfriend jeans aren't the only comfortable trend this spring. Baggy clothes are still in fashion, and the runway was full of baggy pants with slim, cropped tops. Despite Adkins' love for fashion, there is one trend coming back she said she absolutely hates: halter-tops. "Halter-tops are so ugly and self-affirming," Adkins said. "I hate that they're coming back."

"You can't go wrong wearing a nice pair of maroon jeans with a nice denim button up," McCoy said. "You can pair a sweater with it and make it casual and comfy, or you can just wear it alone. You will never be too dressed up, or too casual. It's the perfect style, and he hates button up skirts.

"Halter-tops are so ugly and self-affirming," Adkins said. "I hate that they're coming back."

Among the trends that are new to the season: head-to-toe all black, and head-to-toe all white.

"The runway was full of combinations of blue, yellow and white," said Bradley McCoy, a men's fashion advocate and fashion enthusiast. "While yellow is kind of always seen as a spring color, the shades of blue and white really surprised me. It'll be interesting to see if the colors show up in stores soon."